

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

## NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

## From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner  
US Department of Commerce  
United States Patent and Trademark  
Office, PCT  
2011 South Clark Place Room  
CP2/5C24  
Arlington, VA 22202  
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE  
in its capacity as elected Office

in its capacity as elected Office

<b>Date of mailing (day/month/year)</b> 25 January 2001 (25.01.01)	<b>ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE</b> in its capacity as elected Office
<b>International application No.</b> PCT/GB00/02244	<b>Applicant's or agent's file reference</b> 0086-Y
<b>International filing date (day/month/year)</b> 09 June 2000 (09.06.00)	<b>Priority date (day/month/year)</b> 10 June 1999 (10.06.99)
<b>Applicant</b> REAST, John, Bolland	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

21 December 2000 (21.12.00)

in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election  was

was

was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

<p><b>The International Bureau of WIPO</b> 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland</p>	<p><b>Authorized officer</b></p>
	<p><b>Olivia TEFY</b></p>

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>0086-Y</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. <b>PCT/GB 00/02244</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>09/06/2000</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) <b>10/06/1999</b>
Applicant <b>DETROIT STEEL PRODUCTS CO., INCORPORATED et al.</b>		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

contained in the international application in written form.

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2.  **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3.  **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

as suggested by the applicant.

because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

because this figure better characterizes the invention.

3b

None of the figures.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB 00/02244A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 B60G21/055 B60G11/64 B60G11/46 B60G11/27

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 B60G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EP0-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB 1 506 849 A (FRUEHAUF CRANE LTD) 12 April 1978 (1978-04-12) the whole document ---	1
Y	US 3 140 880 A (MASSER, L.D.) 14 July 1964 (1964-07-14) cited in the application column 2, line 15 - line 44; figures ---	1-3
Y	FR 2 016 231 A (SCHAEFF FRIEDRICH) 8 May 1970 (1970-05-08) page 5, line 12 - line 17; figures 1,2 ---	1-4
Y	WO 92 22438 A (DETROIT STEEL PRODUCTS CO INC) 23 December 1992 (1992-12-23) abstract; figures 5-9 ---	1-4 -/-

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

9 October 2000

16/10/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Tsitsilonis, L

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/02244

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 711 544 A (BUHL REINHARD) 27 January 1998 (1998-01-27) column 1, line 40 -column 2, line 23; figures 1,2 ---	1-3,5,7, 8
A	DE 41 10 571 A (VOLKSWAGENWERK AG) 5 December 1991 (1991-12-05) abstract; figures ---	1-5
A	WO 98 54017 A (NEWAY ANCHORLOK INT INC) 3 December 1998 (1998-12-03) the whole document ---	1-4
A	DE 44 27 172 A (DAIMLER BENZ AG) 15 February 1996 (1996-02-15) abstract; claim 1; figure 1 ---	1
A	GB 1 350 057 A (FORD MOTOR CO) 18 April 1974 (1974-04-18) figure ---	1
A	GB 737 726 A (A.E.C. LTD; ET AL) 28 September 1955 (1955-09-28) -----	

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/02244

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)			Publication date
GB 1506849	A	12-04-1978	NONE			
US 3140880	A	14-07-1964	BE	644263 A	24-08-1964	
			CH	409645 A		
			DE	1455649 A	12-12-1968	
			DK	105852 A		
			FR	1377867 A	19-02-1965	
			GB	1069789 A		
			LU	45524 A	25-08-1964	
			NL	302468 A		
FR 2016231	A	08-05-1970	DE	1780272 A	05-01-1972	
			DE	1925263 A	19-11-1970	
			BE	737644 A	02-02-1970	
			DE	6610346 U	22-11-1973	
			ES	370091 A	01-04-1971	
			NL	6912736 A	25-02-1970	
WO 9222438	A	23-12-1992	AT	165286 T	15-05-1998	
			AU	1908792 A	12-01-1993	
			DE	69225225 D	28-05-1998	
			DE	69225225 T	07-01-1999	
			EP	0587663 A	23-03-1994	
			ES	2114939 T	16-06-1998	
			US	5507516 A	16-04-1996	
US 5711544	A	27-01-1998	DE	19521875 A	19-12-1996	
			BR	9606445 A	23-12-1997	
			CZ	9603207 A	14-05-1997	
			WO	9700177 A	03-01-1997	
			EP	0783415 A	16-07-1997	
			EP	0945289 A	29-09-1999	
			JP	10503990 T	14-04-1998	
DE 4110571	A	05-12-1991	NONE			
WO 9854017	A	03-12-1998	US	5924712 A	20-07-1999	
			AU	7797498 A	30-12-1998	
			BR	9809497 A	20-06-2000	
			CN	1267261 T	20-09-2000	
			DE	983156 T	31-08-2000	
			EP	0983156 A	08-03-2000	
			ZA	9804065 A	25-11-1998	
DE 4427172	A	15-02-1996	NONE			
GB 1350057	A	18-04-1974	NONE			
GB 737726	A		NONE			

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

REC'D 10 SEP 2001

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## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 0086-Y	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>		See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/GB00/02244	International filing date (day/month/year) 09/06/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 10/06/1999	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B60G21/055			
Applicant DETROIT STEEL PRODUCTS CO., INCORPORATED et al.			

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I  Basis of the report
- II  Priority
- III  Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV  Lack of unity of invention
- V  Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI  Certain documents cited
- VII  Certain defects in the international application
- VIII  Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 21/12/2000	Date of completion of this report 06.09.2001
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:   European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer  Eriksson, J Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8868
 14	

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/GB00/02244

## I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):  
**Description, pages:**

1-17 as originally filed

### Claims, No.:

1-8 as originally filed

### Drawings, sheets:

1/13-13/13 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description,        pages:
- the claims,        Nos.:

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/GB00/02244

the drawings,      sheets:

5.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)): *(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)*

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

## **V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

### **1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes:      Claims 8
	No:      Claims 1-5,7
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:      Claims
	No:      Claims 1-8
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:      Claims 1-8
	No:      Claims

### **2. Citations and explanations see separate sheet**

## **VII. Certain defects in the international application**

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:  
**see separate sheet**

## **VIII. Certain observations on the international application**

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:  
**see separate sheet**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB00/02244

**Re Item V**

The document US-A-3 140 880(D1) is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and shows (the references in parentheses applying to this document): An air suspension anti-roll stabilisation system comprising air suspension means, such as at least one pair of air bags (30) air spring mounted upon an axle (12) via leaf spring suspension arms (22) of an associated vehicle on respective opposed sides of the longitudinal axis of the vehicle, with the axle (10) being located at least partially with respect to the frame or chassis (10) of the vehicle by means of a pair of leaf spring arms (22) which are located on respective opposed sides of the longitudinal vehicle axis anti of which each has one end mounted pivotally to the vehicle frame or chassis (10).

Such an air suspension anti-roll stabilisation system is also known from GB-A-1 506 849(D2).

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore not novel (Article 33(2) PCT).

Dependent claims 2 to 8 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step, the reasons being as follows:

The subject-matter of independent claims 2 to 5 and 7 are known from D1, see especially figure 2 and corresponding parts of the description.

The subject-matter of independent claim 8 is a normal design procedure and consequently, the subject-matter of claim 8 lacks an inventive step.

**Re Item VII**

Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the documents D1 and D2 is not mentioned in the description, nor are these documents identified therein.

The terminology and the signs shall be consistent throughout the international application, Rule 10(12) PCT. This is not the case with the "leaf spring arms", "leaf spring suspension arms", "longitudinal suspension arms" and "suspension arms" in claims 1, 4, 6 and 8 and on pages 9 to 15.

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

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International application No. PCT/GB00/02244

**Re Item VIII**

The subject-matter of independent claim 6 contradicts that of claim 1 upon which it is depending in that the suspension arms=leaf spring arms are fixed and not pivotally mounted to the frame or chassis. Hence, claim 6 does not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT.

Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the documents D1 and D2 is not mentioned in the description, nor are these documents identified therein.

*Refer*  
(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
21 December 2000 (21.12.2000)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 00/76795 A1

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: B60G 21/055, (74) Agent: BRITTER, Keith, Palmer; Enterprise House, 14  
11/64, 11/46, 11/27 b Whitehorse Street, Baldock, Hertfordshire SG7 6QN  
(GB).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB00/02244

(22) International Filing Date: 9 June 2000 (09.06.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
9913376.1 10 June 1999 (10.06.1999) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): DETROIT STEEL PRODUCTS CO., INCORPORATED [US/US]; 500N Rangeline Road, P.O. Box 285, Morris-  
town, IN 46161 (US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): REAST, John, Bold-  
land [GB/GB]; Helpringham House, 10 Kimbolton Road,  
Bedford MK40 2NR (GB).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,  
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE,  
DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU,  
ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS,  
LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO,  
NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR,  
TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

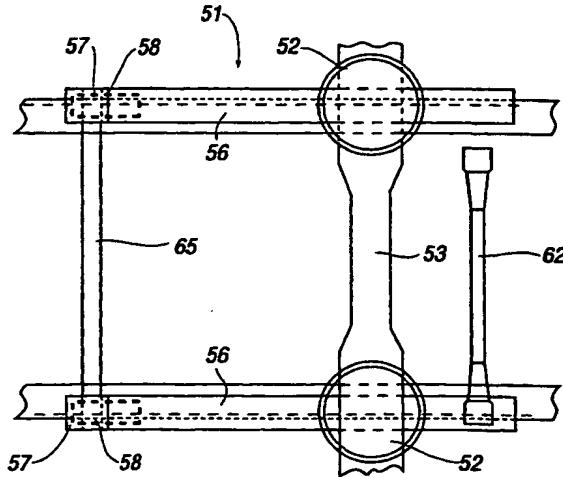
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,  
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian  
patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European  
patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE,  
IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG,  
CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- With international search report.
- Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AIR SUSPENSION ANTI-ROLL STABILISATION SYSTEM



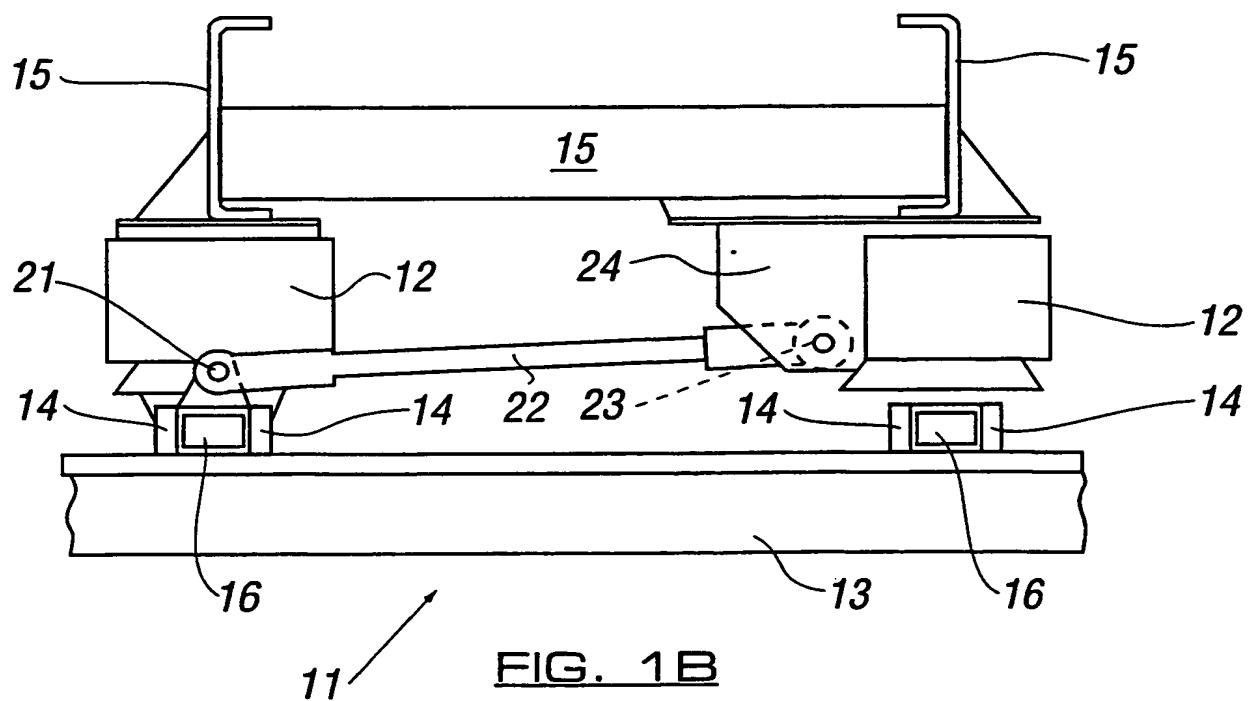
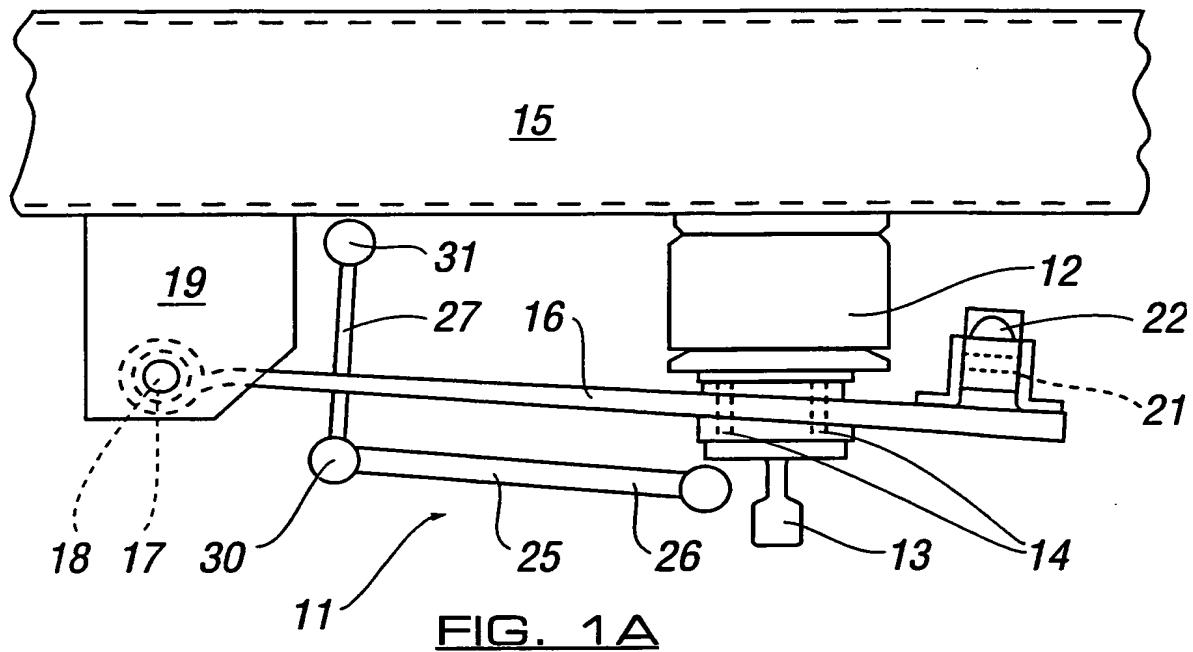
WO 00/76795 A1

(57) Abstract: An air suspension anti-roll stabilisation system (51; 71; 81) comprises air suspension means, such as at least one pair of air bags (52; 72; 82) air spring mounted upon an axle (53; 73; 83) via leaf spring suspension arms (56; 76; 86; 126; 136) of an associated vehicle on respective opposed sides of the longitudinal axis of the vehicle, with the axle (53; 73; 83) being located at least partially with respect to the frame or chassis (55; 79; 92) of the vehicle by means of a pair of leaf spring arms (56; 76; 86; 126; 136) which are located on respective opposed sides of the longitudinal vehicle axis and of which each has one end (57; 77; 84; 124) mounted pivotally to the vehicle frame or chassis (55; 79; 92), wherein anti-roll means (65; 75; 85; 105; 125; 135) is connected rigidly between the pair of longitudinal leaf spring suspension arms (56; 76; 86; 126; 136).



*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

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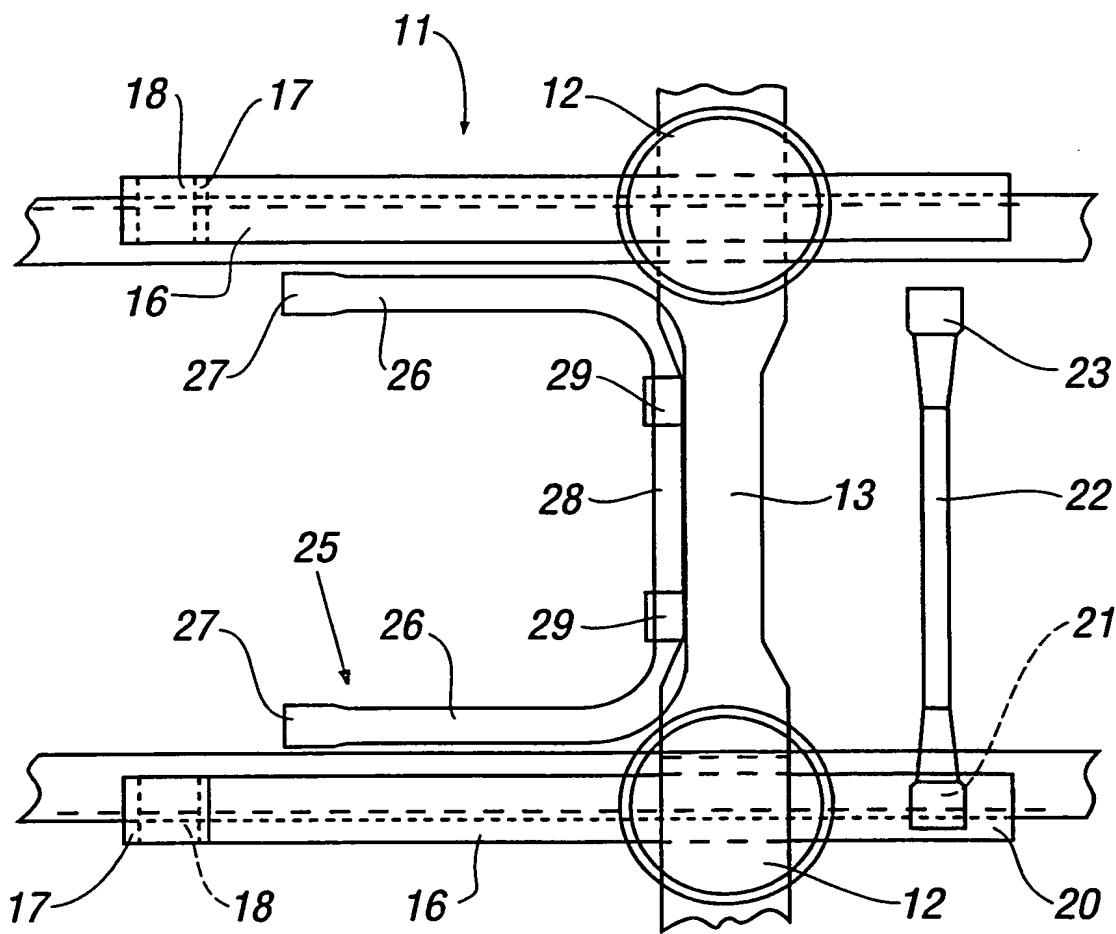


FIG. 1C

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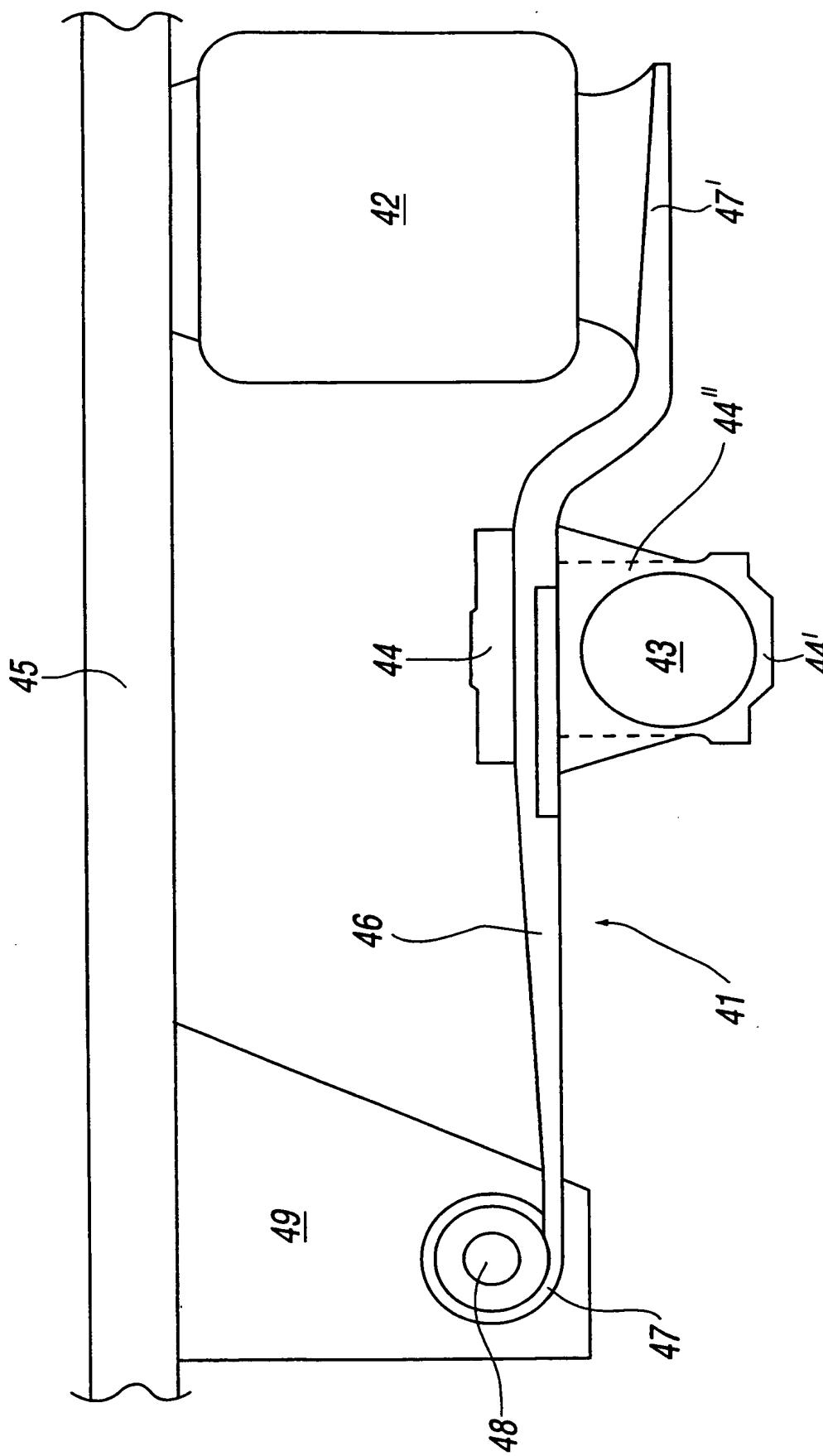


FIG. 2A

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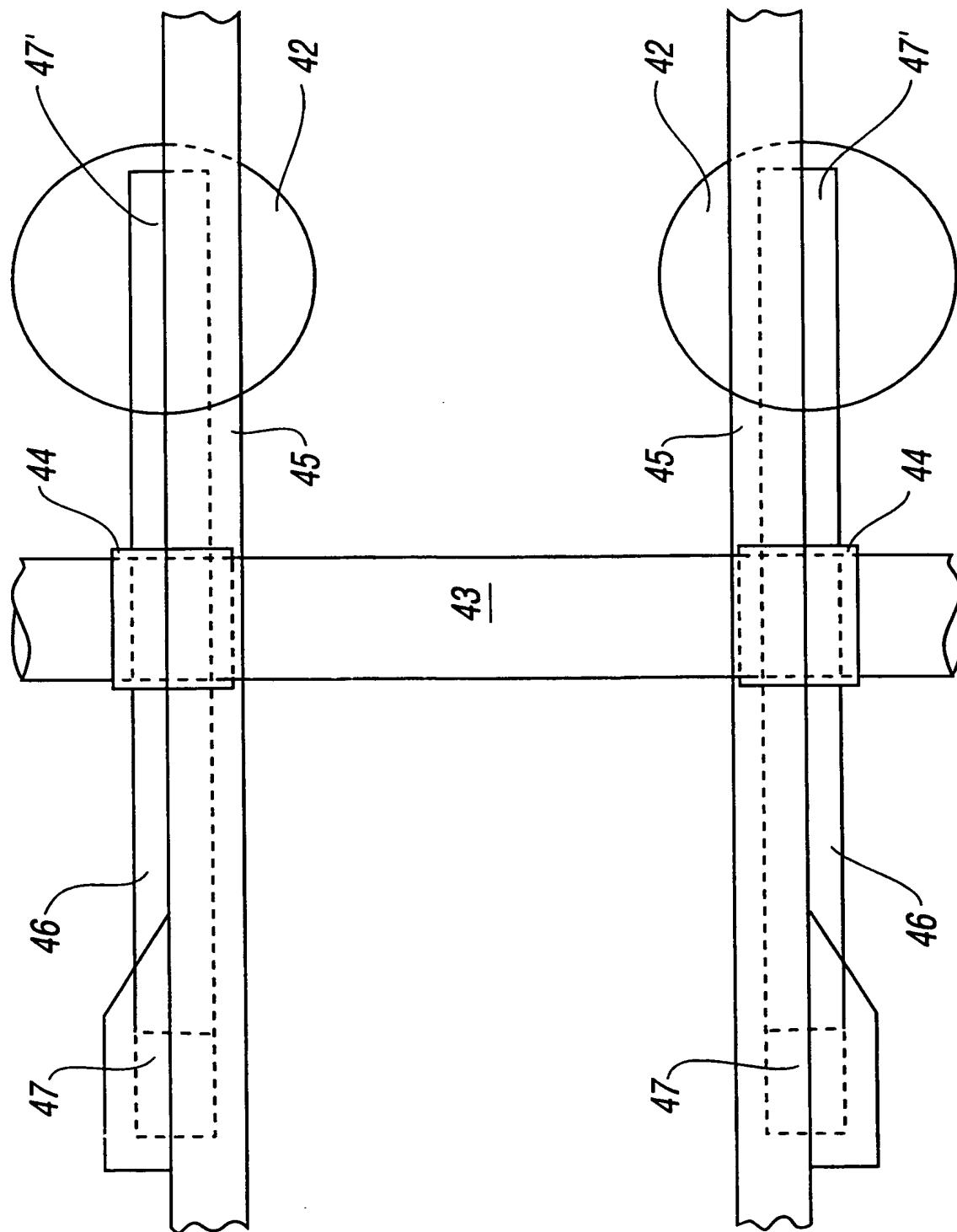


FIG. 2B

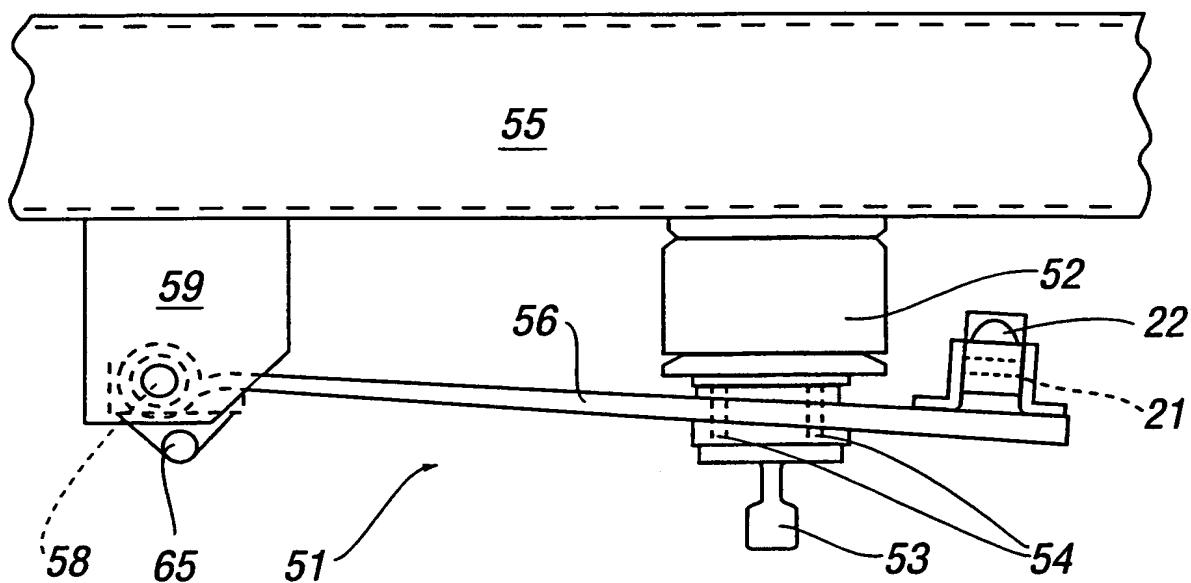


FIG. 3A

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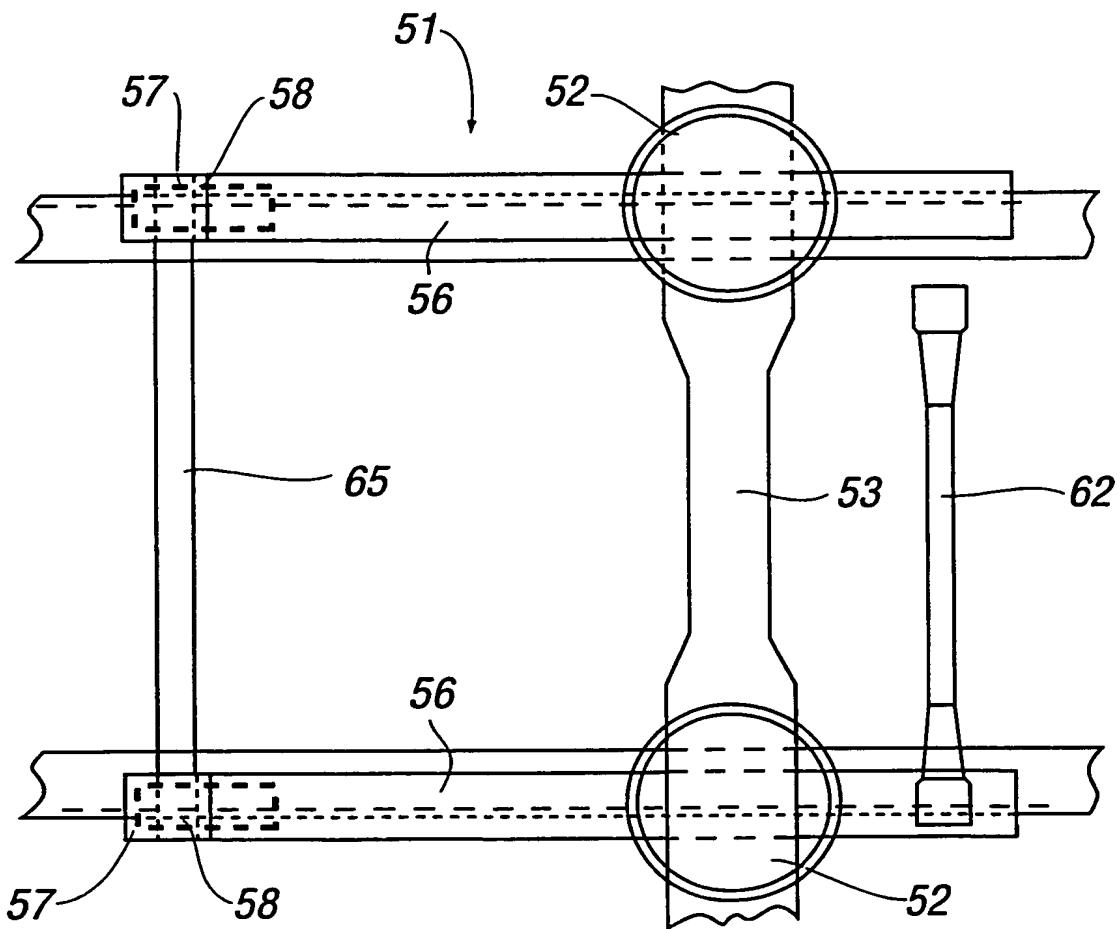


FIG. 3B

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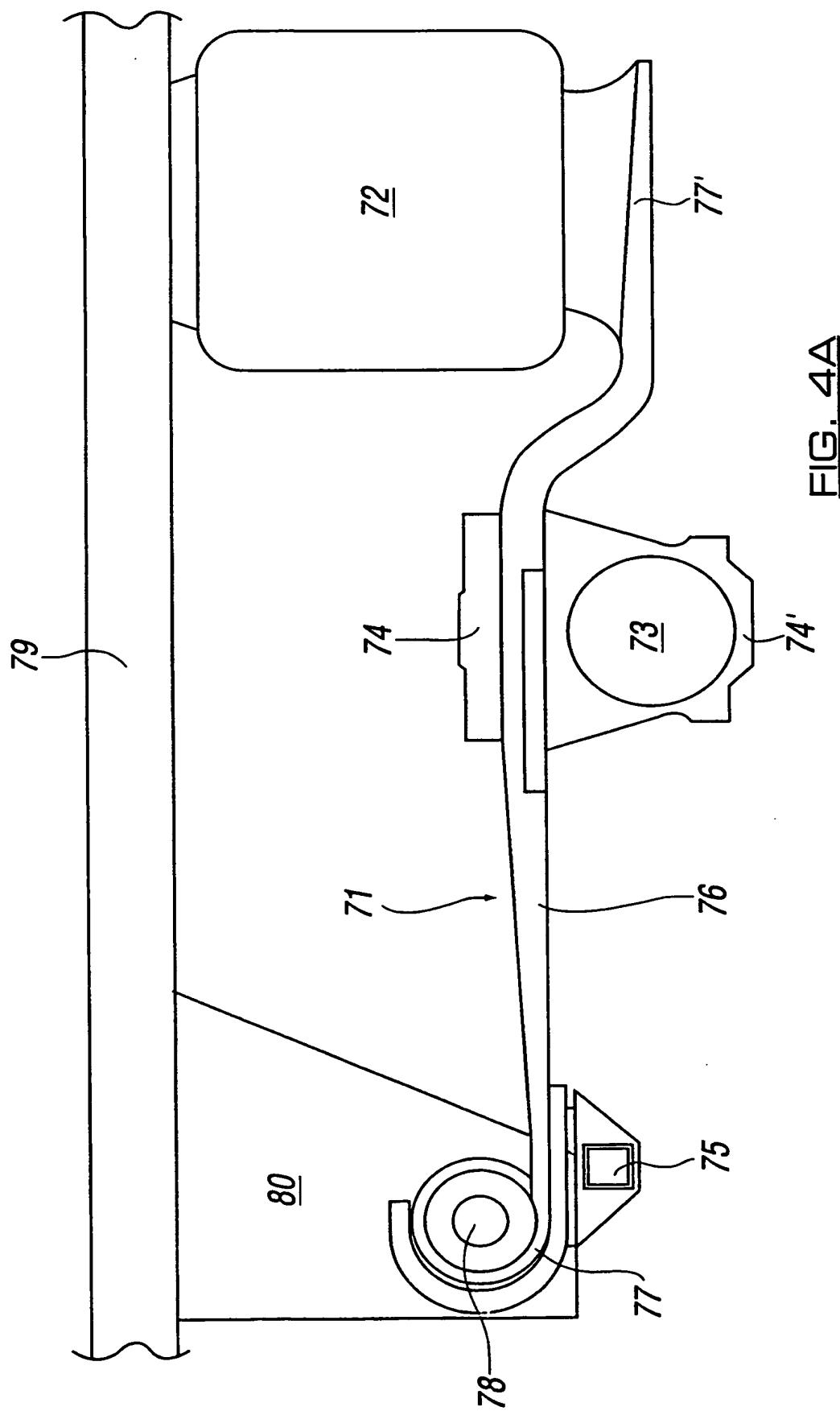


FIG. 4A

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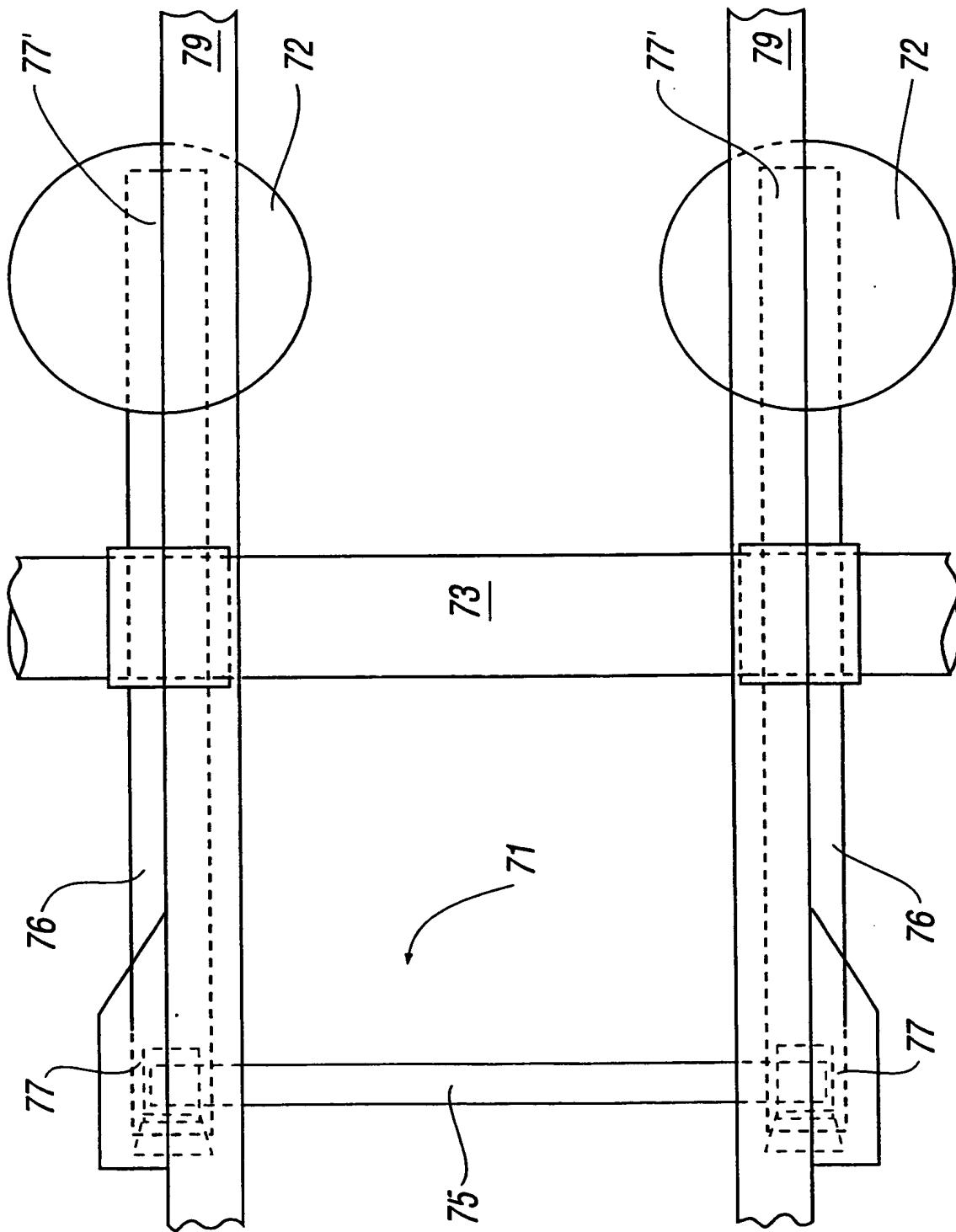


FIG. 4B

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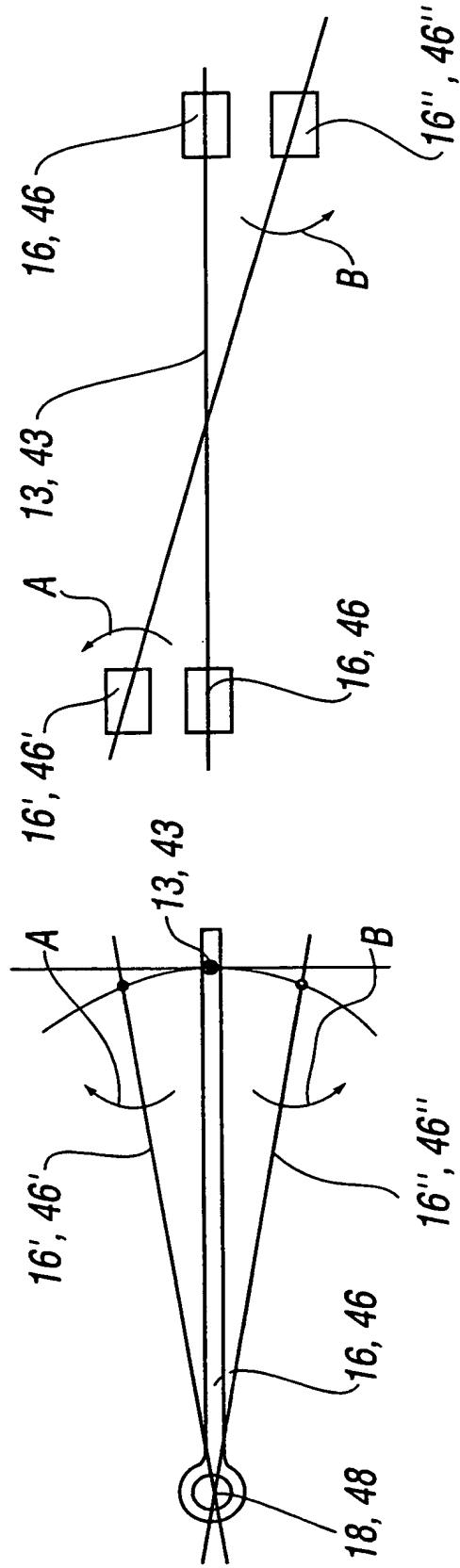
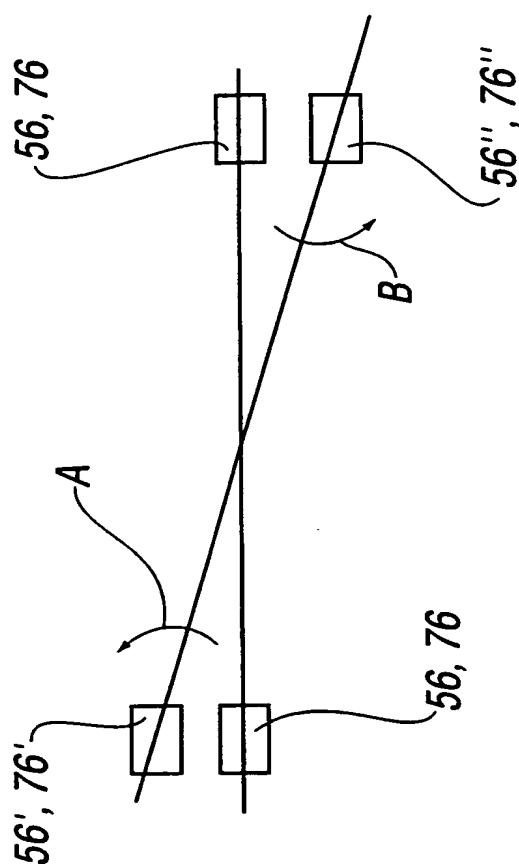


FIG. 5B



**FIG. 6B**

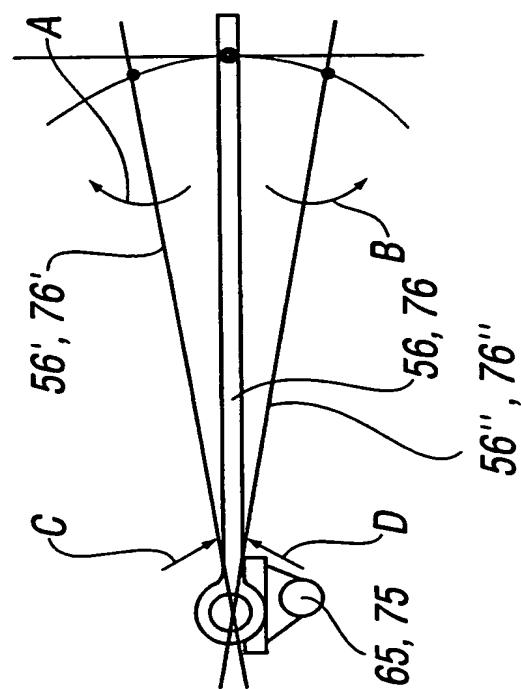


FIG. 6A

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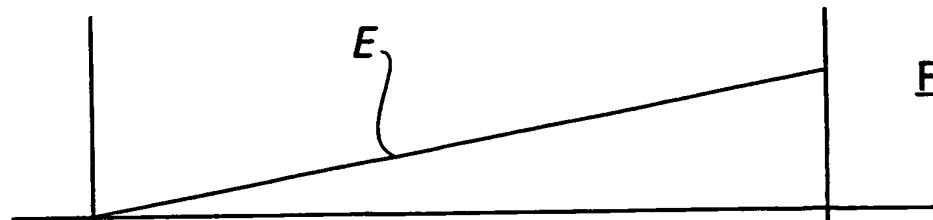


FIG. 7A

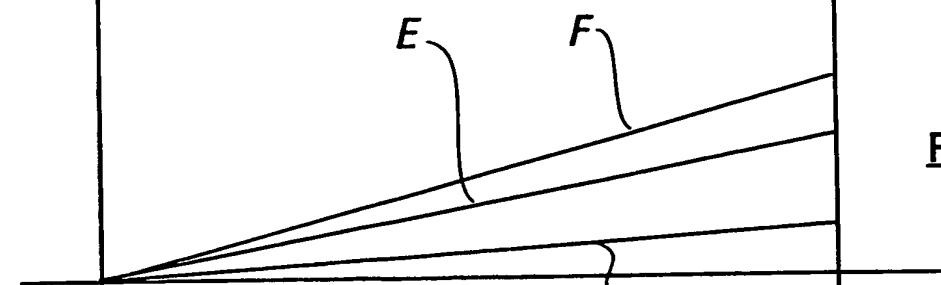


FIG. 7B

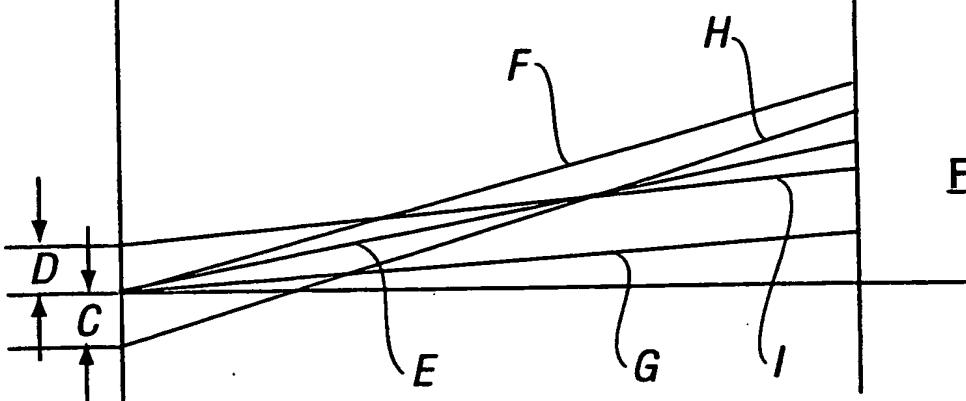


FIG. 7C

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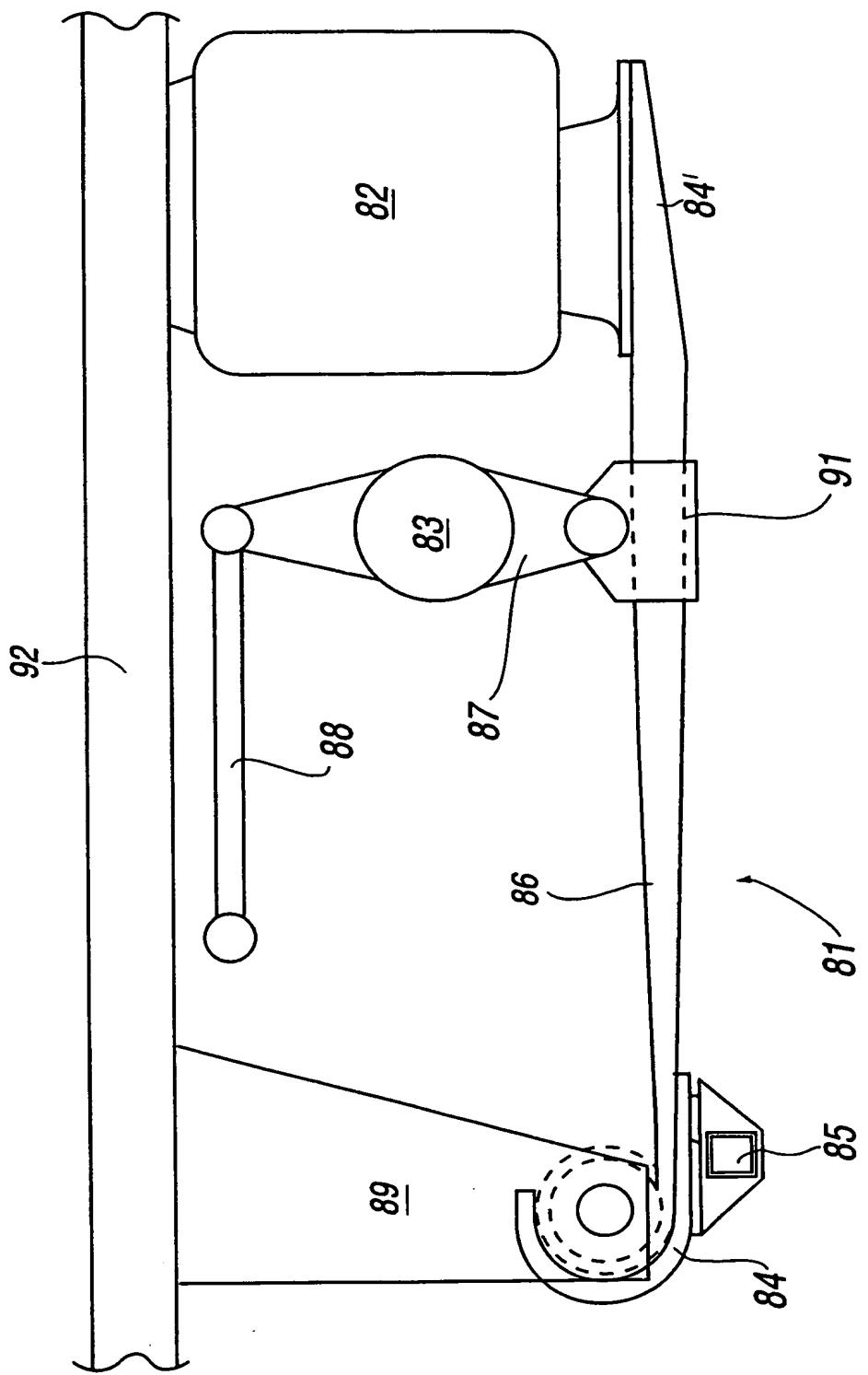
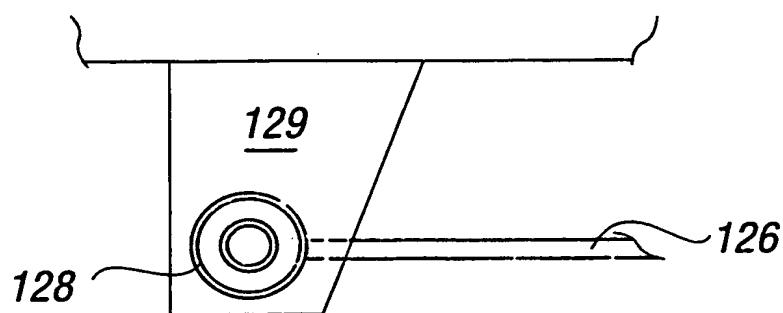
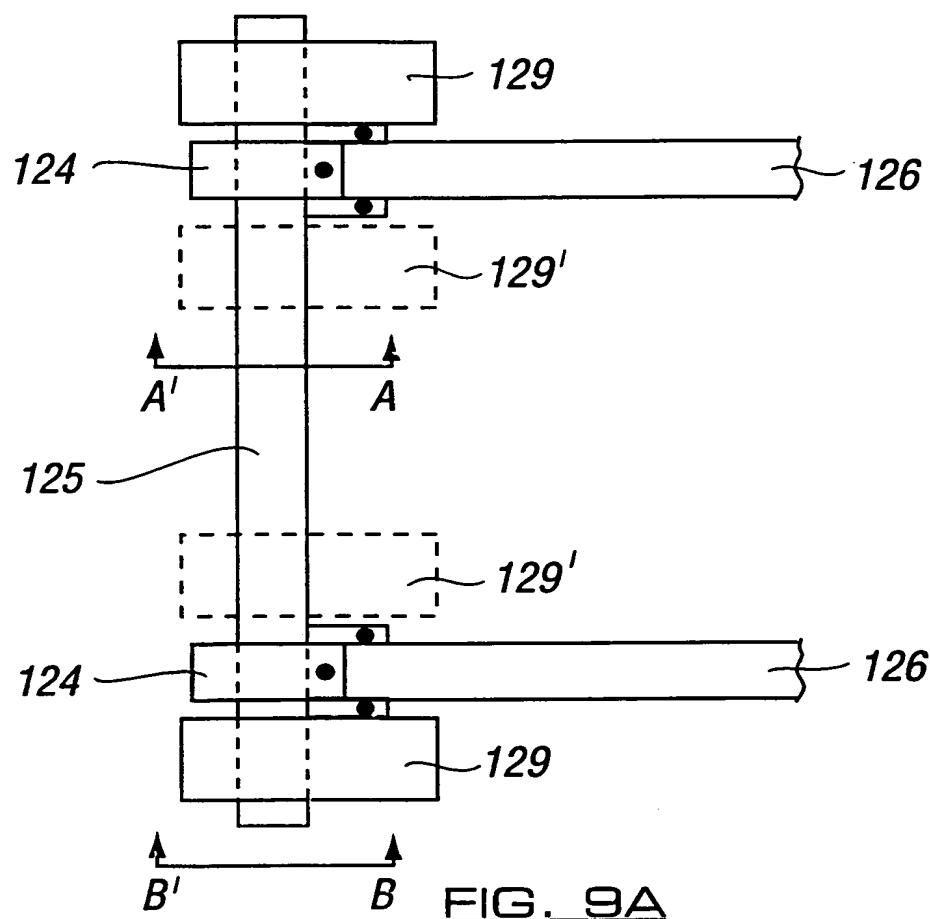
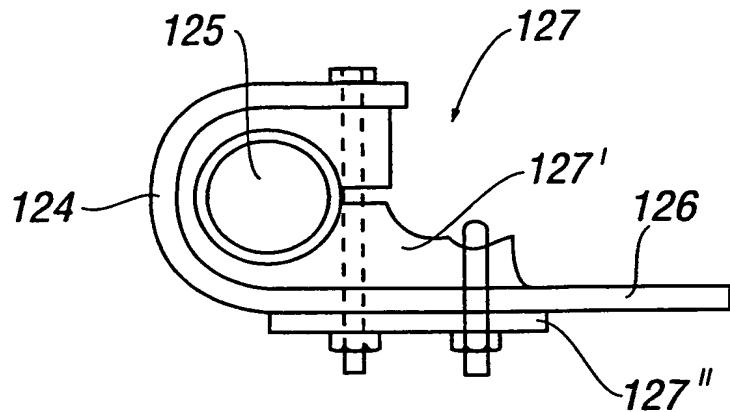
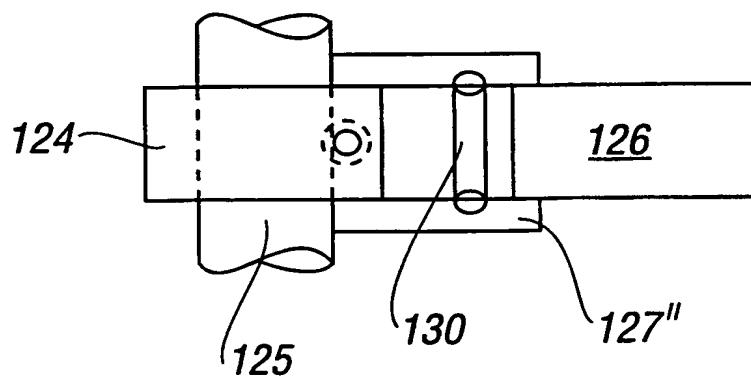
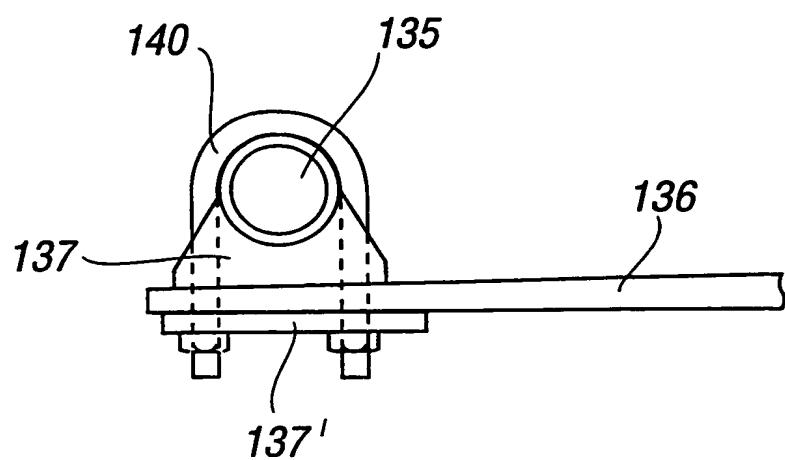


FIG. 8

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FIG. 9CFIG. 9DFIG. 10

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l. National Application No  
PCT/GB 00/02244

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 B60G21/055 B60G11/64 B60G11/46 B60G11/27

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 B60G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB 1 506 849 A (FRUEHAUF CRANE LTD) 12 April 1978 (1978-04-12) the whole document	1
Y	US 3 140 880 A (MASSER, L.D.) 14 July 1964 (1964-07-14) cited in the application column 2, line 15 - line 44; figures	1-3
Y	FR 2 016 231 A (SCHAEFF FRIEDRICH) 8 May 1970 (1970-05-08) page 5, line 12 - line 17; figures 1,2	1-4
Y	WO 92 22438 A (DETROIT STEEL PRODUCTS CO INC) 23 December 1992 (1992-12-23) abstract; figures 5-9	1-4
		-/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

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- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 October 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

16/10/2000

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB 00/02244

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	US 5 711 544 A (BUHL REINHARD) 27 January 1998 (1998-01-27) column 1, line 40 -column 2, line 23; figures 1,2	1-3,5,7, 8
A	DE 41 10 571 A (VOLKSWAGENWERK AG) 5 December 1991 (1991-12-05) abstract; figures	1-5
A	WO 98 54017 A (NEWAY ANCHORLOK INT INC) 3 December 1998 (1998-12-03) the whole document	1-4
A	DE 44 27 172 A (DAIMLER BENZ AG) 15 February 1996 (1996-02-15) abstract; claim 1; figure 1	1
A	GB 1 350 057 A (FORD MOTOR CO) 18 April 1974 (1974-04-18) figure	1
A	GB 737 726 A (A.E.C. LTD; ET AL) 28 September 1955 (1955-09-28)	

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

Int'l. Application No

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